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Inventor

Dietmar DETERING

Patent App.

09/520,123

Filed

7 March 2000

For

TWO-PART PRICING OF DIFFE

Art Unit

2768

Hon. Commissioner of Patents Washington, DC 20231

RECEIVED

enf. No. 9814

DEC 2 0 2002

Technology Center 2100

FIRST AMENDMENT

In response to the Office Action (paper 7) mailed 14 August 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

DEC 2 3 2002

GROUP 3600

In the Specification:

Please replace the last paragraph on page 19 to read --

By voting, each participant not only indicates which decision he favors, but also, how much he favors that particular Sample member 12(1)', for example, has a willingness to outcome. pay of \$60 and would acquire megasoft in retail trade, thus gaining a consumer surplus of \$10. With the collective purchase, he would save \$40 as compared to the purchase in retail trade. Thus, he votes with this value in favor of the collective purchase.

12(2-10)' behave similarly. Member 12(6)' seems to be particularly against the acquisition. He votes with 110 US\$ against the offer, although it would cost --.